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**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claim 3.

Please amend the claims to read as indicated herein.

1. (currently amended) A method of reducing ~~the~~ effects of varying environmental conditions on a measuring instrument ~~comprising~~ having a measuring unit, said method comprising:

thermally insulating said measuring unit such that the effects of ~~variations of~~ varying environmental conditions on selected components of said measuring unit are substantially reduced, while allowing dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit ; and

controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit by means of a control loop ~~comprising~~ having a temperature sensor and means to influence said first temperature in said measuring unit in such a way that temperatures at locations with selected components are kept substantially constant,

wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is related to an ambient temperature, and

wherein said first temperature is controlled within a range of the order of the expected variation of the ambient temperature.

2. (previously presented) Method as in claim 1, wherein said step of thermally insulating comprises arranging a thermal barrier between said measuring unit and a housing of said measuring instrument.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) Method as in claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is above said ambient temperature.

5. (currently amended) ~~Method as in claim 1,~~ A method of reducing effects of varying environmental conditions on a measuring instrument having a measuring unit, said method comprising:

thermally insulating said measuring unit such that the effects of varying environmental conditions on selected components of said measuring unit are substantially reduced, while allowing dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit ; and

controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit by means of a control loop having a temperature sensor and means to influence said first temperature in said measuring unit in such a way that temperatures at locations with selected components are kept substantially constant,

wherein said step of controlling a first temperature ~~comprises~~ includes:

directing air to said measuring unit utilizing a fan;

heating said air directed to said measuring unit; and

measuring the temperature of said heated air and using said measured temperature as an input signal to said control loop.

6. (previously presented) Method as in claim 5, comprising the additional steps of:

measuring a temperature ($\eta_{amb}$) close to said housing where ambient air enters said measuring instrument; and

deriving from said temperature ($\eta_{amb}$) an additional input signal to said control loop.

7. (currently amended) Method as in claim 1, wherein said measuring instrument ~~comprises~~ includes a liquid chromatography detector.

8. (currently amended) A measuring instrument ~~comprising~~ that includes a measuring unit ~~comprising~~ having components ~~which~~ that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially ~~reduces the~~ reduce effects of said ~~variations in~~ varying environmental

conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring ~~unit ;~~ unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller ~~comprising:~~having:

a temperature sensor; and

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at locations with said selected components are kept substantially constant,

wherein said first temperature in said measuring unit is related to an ambient temperature, and

wherein said first temperature is controlled within a range of the order of the expected variation of the ambient temperature.

9. (previously presented) Measuring instrument as in claim 8, wherein said thermal insulation comprises a thermal barrier arranged between said measuring unit and a housing of said measuring instrument.

10. (currently amended) ~~Measuring instrument as in claim 8,~~ A measuring instrument that includes a measuring unit having components that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially reduce effects of said varying environmental conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller having:

a temperature sensor;

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at locations with said selected components are kept substantially constant;

~~wherein said controller comprises:~~

a fan for directing air to said measuring unit;

a heater for heating said directed air;

a temperature sensor for measuring a temperature of said heated air; and

a control loop connected to said temperature sensor and to said heater.

11. (previously presented) Measuring instrument as in claim 10, further comprising an additional temperature sensor located in close proximity to said housing where ambient air enters said measuring instrument, and wherein said additional temperature sensor provides an additional input signal to said control loop.

12. (currently amended) ~~Measuring instrument as in claim 8,~~ A measuring instrument that includes a measuring unit having components that are sensitive to varying environmental conditions, said measuring instrument comprising:

thermal insulation arranged in said measuring instrument so as to substantially reduce effects of said varying environmental conditions on selected components, and to permit dissipated heat generated within said measuring unit to leave said measuring unit; and

a controller for controlling a first temperature in said measuring unit, said controller having:

a temperature sensor; and

means to influence said first temperature in such a way that temperatures at locations with said selected components are kept substantially constant

wherein said measuring unit ~~comprises :~~ includes:

a flow cell through which solvent can flow; and

additional means for adapting a solvent inlet temperature to a temperature of the flow cell environment.

13. (currently amended) Method as in claim ~~3~~ 1, wherein said first temperature is above said ambient temperature by about one half of said expected variation of said ambient temperature.

14. (previously presented) Method as in claim 1, wherein said measuring instrument comprises a liquid chromatography absorbance detector.

15. (previously presented) The measuring instrument of claim 8, wherein said measuring instrument comprises an optical detector.